

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

DE SIMONE, C.

Atty. Ref.: 2818-72

Serial No. unknown

Group:

Filed: -December 21, 2001

Examiner:

For: COMBINATION OF LACTIC ACID BACTERIA AND ITS USE FOR THE
PREVENTION AND/OR TREATMENT OF INFECTIONS AND
INFLAMMATORY CONDITIONS

* * * * *

December 21, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for
examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraphs in the specification for corresponding
paragraphs previously presented. A copy of the amended specification paragraphs
showing current revisions is attached.

Page 1, before the first line, insert as a separate paragraph:

-- This application is the continuation of international application PCT/IT00/00251
filed 16 June 2000, which designated the U.S.. --